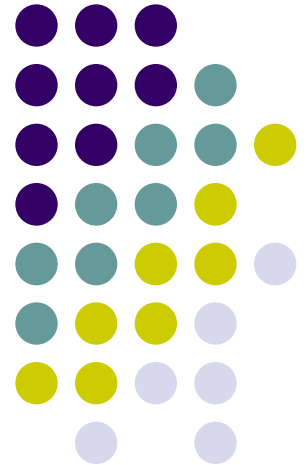
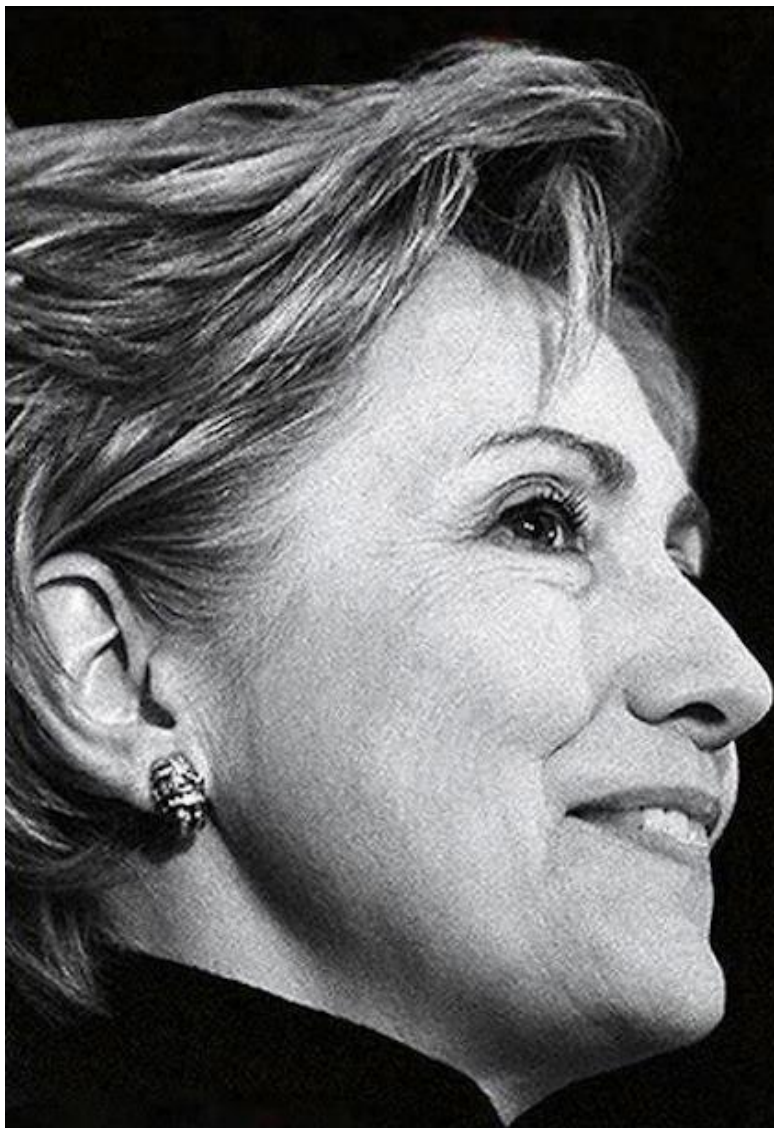


Developing cultural competence for LGBT people with cancer

Presentation to Social work in health
and mental health conference,
Los Angeles
Dr Julie Fish
De Montfort University
Leicester, UK





“
Gay people are born
and belong to every
society in the world.
They are all ages,
all races, all faiths.
They are doctors and
teachers, farmers
and bankers, soldiers
and athletes.
And whether we
know it, or whether
we acknowledge it,
they are our family,
our friends, and
our neighbors.
Being gay is not a
western invention. It
is a human reality.
”

— Hillary Clinton



Born Free and Equal UN 2012

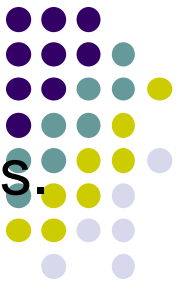


- 1. Protect individuals from homophobic and transphobic violence**
- 2. Prevent torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment**
- 3. Repeal laws criminalizing homosexuality**
- 4. Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity**
- 5. Safeguard freedom of association and peaceful assembly**



UK 1998 Human Rights Act

- 1 All human beings are born free & equal in dignity & rights.
- 2 The right to life
- 3 The right not to be tortured or treated in a inhuman or degrading way
- 4 The right to be free from slavery or forced labour
- 5 The right to liberty
- 6 The right to a fair trial
- 7 The right to no punishment without law
- 8 The right to respect for private and family life
- 9 The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- 10 The right to freedom of expression
- 11 The right to freedom of assembly and association
- 12 The right to marry and found a family
- 14 The right not to be discriminated against
- Protocol 1 The right to education
- 25 The right to health and social services.





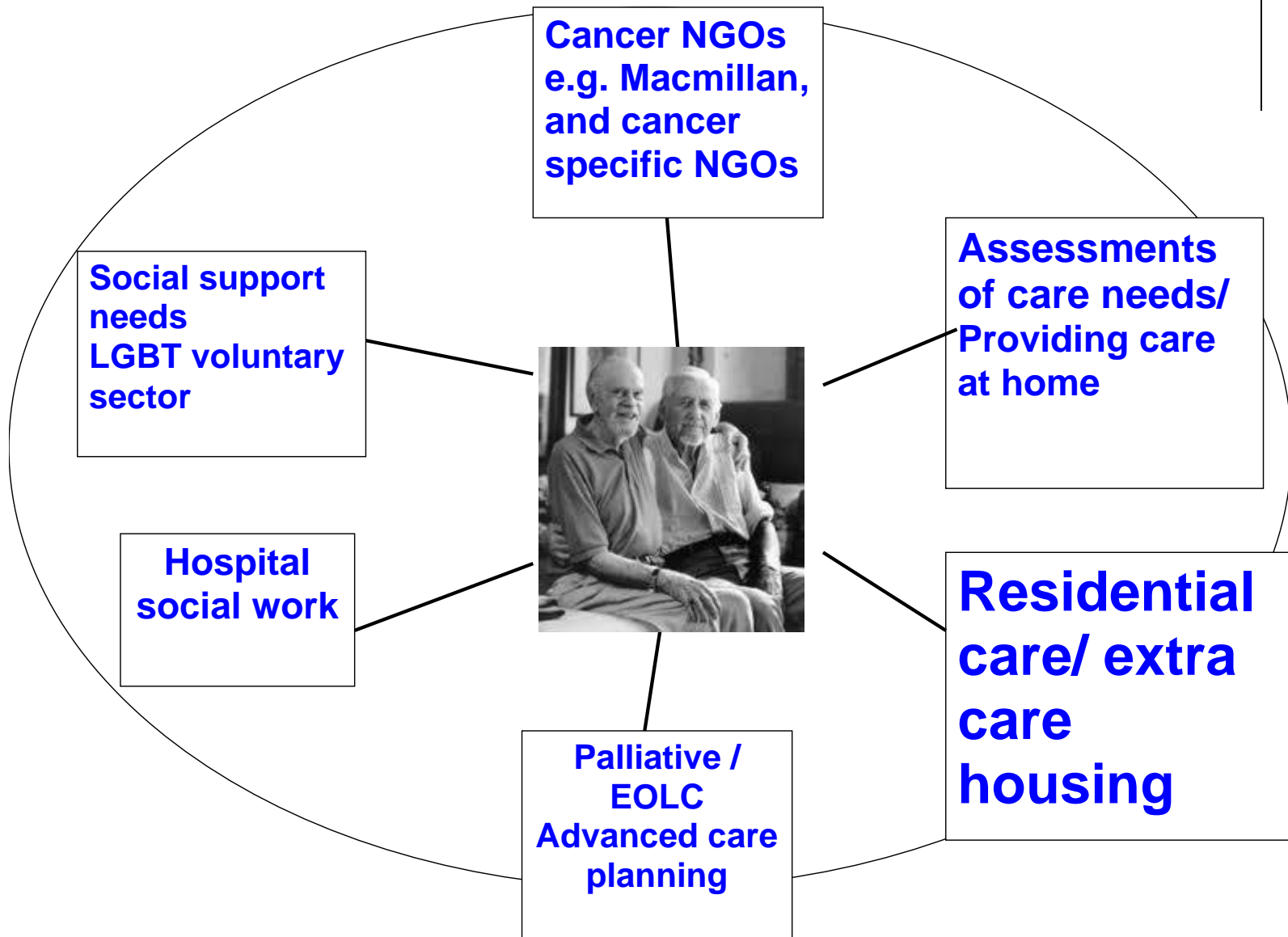
LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS IN THE WORLD

ILGA, THE INTERNATIONAL LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANS AND INTERSEX ASSOCIATION

May 2012
www.ilga.org



Cancer services in social work



Cancer Patient Experience Survey 2011



LGBT respondents were less likely to agree with:

Doctors never talked in front of patient as if they were not there

Never felt treated as a set of cancer symptoms rather than as a whole person

Patient was given information about support / self help groups for people with cancer

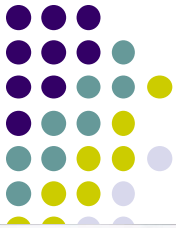
Always treated with respect and dignity by hospital staff

Hospital staff always did everything they could to control their pain



Coming Out About Breast Cancer

Research on lesbian and bisexual women's experiences of breast cancer



Lesbian and bisexual women and breast cancer

ESRC knowledge exchange programme RES-192-22-0111



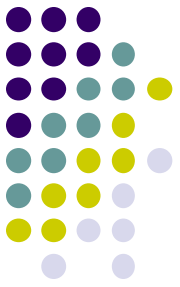
personal experience professional support



Supporting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans people with cancer

A practical guide for cancer and other health professionals

LGBT people have been hiding for the whole of our lives



- We adapt to this in different ways
- 2½ times more likely to live alone;
- More likely to have no children to call on;
- 25% believed that health professionals were positive to LGBT
- 16% believed professionals knowledgeable.



Older people more likely to be closeted?

What do LGBT people fear about health professionals?



- Won't like me
- Think I'm sinful
- Brought disease on myself
- Think I am a sexual predator
- Give me worse care
- Won't visit me
- They might misjudge me

What concerns professionals about LGBT patients?



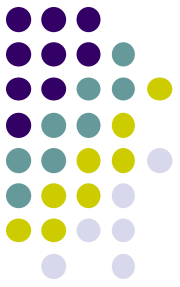
- I might be embarrassed
- Don't know what to say
- Don't know who the carers are
- They might misjudge me
- Am I safe from harm/accusation?
- I'm gay and might be "outed"



New forms of care

- Personalised to people's individual needs;
- Greater emphasis on recovery, health and well-being after treatment;
- Focus is away from a one size fits all approach to one which recognises people's differing needs and preferences.

How not to treat LGBT people the 'same' as everyone else



Provide services where LGBT people

- feel safe and free from discrimination
- are able to come out to professionals
- are able to involve their partners/ carers in treatment decisions
- are valued for who they are
- are supported to live the lives they choose
- are able to live a variety of lifestyles.

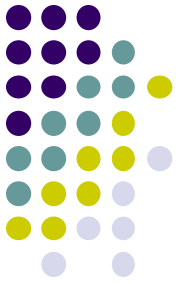
One example from practice: Breast Cancer Care

- **Equality and Diversity Strategy: User audits of services, more inclusive imagery and language, working with other orgs, case studies, develop training on understanding the impact of discrimination and prejudice on health and confidence to access services and increase the diversity of our Voices**
- **Collect sexual orientation data for volunteers and plan to do so for everyone that uses BCC's services**
- **Use data to see patterns of how people use services and if there is any differences we can attribute to equalities issues**

Service provision for LGBT people



- Lack of service providers knowledge about LGBT issues
- Fear of breaches of confidentiality
- Expectations of discrimination/negative experiences
- Too much/too little attention on sexual orientation
- Service user's self acceptance of identity
- Social isolation



Thank you
Any questions?



LGBT Friendly Services

**IF YOU'RE GOING TO OPPOSE LGBT RIGHTS,
THEN BE HONEST ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE REALLY IN FAVOR OF.**



The Other 98%

